

REMARKS


Applicants respectfully request consideration of the subject application as amended herein. This Preliminary Amendment is submitted in connection with a Rule 1.53(b) divisional patent application. Claims 1-16 have been cancelled. Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. All pending claims are fully supported by the originally filed specification. These claims are now in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

If there are any additional charges, please charge them to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666. If a telephone conference would facilitate the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Heather M. Molleur at (408) 720-8300.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: 9/2, 2003


Heather M. Molleur (Reg. No. 50,432)

Customer No. 08791
12400 Wilshire Blvd.
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026
(408) 720-8300